

WASHINGTON STATE

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OFFICER

MONTHLY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2004

CATEGORY	SEP 2004	SEP 2003	YTD 04	YTD 03
CSEPP INCIDENTS	3	7	34	31
DOE INCIDENTS	1	0	8	13
FIRE	17	35	303	393
HAZMAT	152	138	1452	1324
OTHER	24	26	215	190
911 OUTAGES	5	4	24	28
SAR	54	62	456	477
TERRORIST	0	0	0	0
WEATHER	4	3	54	38
CGS INCIDENTS	0	0	1	0
TOTAL	261	275	2547	2494

LEGEND

CSEPP	Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program
DOE	Department of Energy, Hanford Site
SAR	Search and Rescue Missions
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials Incidents
WEATHER	Weather Incidents (throughout state, i.e., Flood, High Winds, and Snow)
CGS	Columbia Generating Station
FIRE	Forest Fire Incidents
OTHER	This category includes a wide variety of incidents, i.e., Tsunami, Earthquake, Critical Incident Stress Debriefings, Bomb Threat, etc...
911	911 Service Outages

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

On September 11, Department of Energy, Hanford reported an Abnormal Event. During the removal and sorting of remediation waste at the 100 B/C area remedial action project, a leaking metal cylinder of mercury was discovered. It was estimated approximately one gallon of mercury had leaked from the container to the ground. The mercury material was cleaned-up and stored for disposal with no injuries reported.

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- On September 13, the Umatilla Chemical Depot (UMCD) reported a 400 gallon release of liquid brine from an outside holding tank. The material had spilled into the secondary holding area from a leaking pipe and no chemical release had occurred. There were no injuries, not considered to be chemical related and was therefore treated as a HAZMAT.
- On September 15, Chelan County commenced a search for a missing adult male hiker who failed to return from a 3-night / 4-day hike in the Alpine Wilderness area near Leavenworth. Additional ground and horse-mounted searchers from King, Kittitas and Yakima counties assisted along with several fixed wing aircraft coordinated by Department of Transportation, Aeronautics division and a Snohomish County helicopter. After five days of searching, the extensive search was suspended at dusk on September 19 without locating the individual. The search may be reopened in the future if any additional information becomes available.
- On September 16, Umatilla Chemical Depot (UMCD) reported a routine leaker was discovered in Igloo K1825. The M55 rocket was placed into "over pack" with no release of material to the outside atmosphere.
- On September 24, Mount St. Helens entered into an increased seismic activity period with hundreds of small earthquakes being registered by local seismographs. This earthquake activity was initially believed to be caused by water seeping down into the lava dome, turning into steam and causing rocks to split apart and/or fall down the side of the mountain. On September 26, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) issued a **Notice of Volcanic Unrest** for Mt. St. Helens. The U.S. Forest Service closed all hiking trails at Mt. St. Helens, but the Johnston Observatory remained open. A **Volcano Advisory** was issued on September 29 due to the increased concern surrounding the steadily increasing level of earthquake activity and apparent movement of the dome. This earthquake activity is being closely monitored by the University of Washington and the USGS Mount St. Helens Cascade Volcano observatory. The State EOC activated to Phase II at 1040 hours on September 29, 2004 to monitor the event.
- On September 30, a Red Flag Warning was issued for the Okanogan, Methow Valleys due to high winds and low relative humidity. The event was canceled on the evening of September 30.

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- For the month of September 2004 the SEOO's:
 - Issued 9 warnings to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies
 - Issued 0 warnings to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies
 - Conducted 786 notifications to state agency liaisons for imminent or occurring emergencies
 - Coordinated 14 resources for search, rescue, recovery and response operations
 - Participated in 13 exercises of which 6 were vessel spill drills
 - Made 11157 and answered 1462 telephone calls
 - Conducted 1749 National Warning System Tests, conducted 246 Comprehensive Emergency Management Network (CEMNET) radio tests. (connects all counties and many cities via Zetron Radio Console)
 - Conducted 44 dedicated line tests with the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP)
 - Conducted 4 dedicated line tests with the Department of Energy, Hanford Site (DOE)
 - Conducted 2 dedicated line tests with the Columbia Generating Station (CGS)
 - Conducted 24 down wind trajectory connectivity communications tests with the Umatilla Military Storage Depot (D2PUFF)